

Section III (Remarks)

The specification has been amended herein to claim the priority of International Application No. PCT/JP2003/010175 and Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-231838.

The claims have been amended herein to eliminate multiple dependencies of claims of the international patent application, and to correspondingly eliminate the circumstance of multiple dependent claims depending from a multiply dependent claim in violation of MPEP § 608.01(n) and 37 CFR § 1.75.

Specifically, claims 3, 4, and 5 have been amended to render same into dependent form, so that each such claim depends only from claim 1.

Concurrently, new claims 8-13 have been added to set forth subject matter of the former multiply dependent claims 3, 4 and 5 in new singly dependent claims.

It therefore is requested that examination proceed on the basis of claims 1-13 as herein amended/added.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven J. Hultquist
Reg. No. 28,021
Attorney for Applicants

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY/
TECHNOLOGY LAW
P.O. Box 14329
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Phone: (919) 419-9350
Fax: (919) 419-9354
Attorney File No.: 4230-121